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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

6 FEBRUARY 2019

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Palm Springs - Crash Victims had Gunshot Wounds in Possible Mass Killing

(U) Three victims, aged 17-19 years, found at the scene of a fatal traffic collision late Sunday evening sustained gunshot wounds, and a 25-year-old man who was found dead on the street elsewhere in the city also was shot, according to police. Authorities are now investigating the two incidents together, describing it as a four-person homicide investigation, possibly the "worst mass-killing" in Palm Springs's history. Police are unsure if there is a current threat to public safety and do not know if someone involved is still out there.

SOURCE: 5 February 2019, [KESQ News](#)

(U) Yorba Linda - Pilot of Crashed Plane Not a Police Officer

(U) Antonio Pastini, 75, who was the pilot of a small plane which exploded and crashed into a home in Yorba Linda on Sunday, killing a total of five people, was not a Chicago police officer, as initially reported. The original report claimed Pastini was a police officer based upon the recovery of a police badge and retirement papers—later determined to be fake—following the crash. The cause of the crash remains unknown. The wreckage and other evidence was taken to a facility in Arizona to be examined.

SOURCE: 5 February 2019, [CBS News](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) New Mexico - Governor Withdraws Most National Guard Troops from Southern Border

(U) Santa Fe - New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham ordered the state's National Guard to withdraw most of its troops assigned to the southern border on 5 February. However, Gov. Grisham said she would keep some guardsmen in the southwest corner of the state, which has seen an increase in attempted illegal entry in recent months. In addition, the governor asked that guard troops from Arkansas, Kansas, Kentucky, New Hampshire, South Carolina, and Wisconsin leave the state immediately. A total of 118 National Guard troops are deployed in New Mexico as part of a border mission ordered in April 2018 by President Trump.

SOURCE: 5 February 2019, [Washington Post](#)

(U) Texas - Migrants Arrive at Texas-Mexico Border, Prompting State Trooper Response

(U) San Angelo - A caravan of almost 2,000 Central American migrants arrived Monday just outside the Texas-Mexico border with the hopes of crossing into the United States, according to officials. Authorities say the migrants arrived in Piedras Negras, across the Rio Grande from Eagle Pass in Maverick County, Texas. Multiple sheriff's offices, the US Border Patrol, and the Texas Department of Public Safety mobilized, organizing a response in case of attempted illegal entry. One group of migrants is hoping to make it to Arizona and another group to Minnesota, according to the Maverick County Sheriff.

SOURCE: 5 February 2019, [Indy Star News](#)

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(U) NATIONAL**(U) District of Columbia - Pentagon Report Warns ISIS Could Regroup**

(U) Washington - ISIS "remains a potent force of battle-hardened and well-disciplined fighters that 'could likely resurge in Syria' absent continued counterterrorism pressure," according to a report from the Inspector General of the US Department of Defense. Separately, the top commander of US forces in the Middle East told the Senate yesterday that there are between 1,000 and 1,500 ISIS fighters in a small area in the southern part of the Euphrates River Valley. The remainder, he said, have "dispersed" and "gone to ground," suggesting they retain the potential to return. The US Central Command has stated that ISIS fighters will continue to conduct "opportunistic attacks" on American troops as they withdraw. SOURCE: 5 February 2019, [NBC News](#)

(U) District of Columbia - Official Report of No Foreign Interference in 2018 Elections

(U) Washington - There is no evidence of foreign interference in the 2018 midterm elections, according to a new joint report released yesterday by the Justice and Homeland Security Departments. While specific conclusions remain classified, the report found no "identified activities of a foreign government or foreign agent had a material impact on the integrity or security of election infrastructure or political/campaign infrastructure." The federal government worked with state and local officials in all 50 states and in more than 1,400 local jurisdictions after the Russian government's widespread influence efforts in the 2016 presidential election.

SOURCE: 5 February 2019, [CBS News](#)

(U) District of Columbia - Human Smuggling Ring Recycled Children to Pose as Family Units

(U) Washington - The Associate Chief of US Border Patrol Intelligence said on 1 February that human traffickers are using children to smuggle illegal immigrants across the border as a family unit, and then recycling the children back across the border to be used again. According to authorities, the human smugglers would bring the children up from Central America—smuggling them as part of a family group—send them back to Guatemala after illegal entry was successful, put them in another family group, and then repeat the cycle.

SOURCE: 5 February 2019, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Florida - US Coast Guard Seizes 35,000 Pounds of Cocaine in Pacific

(U) Fort Lauderdale - The US Coast Guard (USCG) recently seized nearly 35,000 pounds of cocaine from drug smuggling vessels in the eastern Pacific Ocean. The cocaine was off-loaded yesterday in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Commander Michael Sharp stated that the illicit drug shipments were found in the past three months aboard fishing vessels and 'go-fast' boats outfitted to conceal contraband and evade authorities. Six crews seized the cocaine from 21 separate vessels stopped in Pacific waters off Mexico and Central and South America. Sharp said the total quantity of cocaine had a "street value" of about \$466 million. According to the USCG, crews have seized 1.3 million pounds of cocaine and detained 1,200 suspects at sea in the past few years.

SOURCE: 5 February 2019, [KTVU News](#)

(U) Ohio - Man Who Wanted to Create ISIS Sleeper Cell in US Sentenced

(U) Akron - After expressing his desire to create a terrorist "sleeper" cell and carry out domestic attacks on targets, including military members, Erick Jamal Hendricks, 38, was sentenced Monday to 15 years in prison. Hendricks was convicted of attempting and conspiring to provide material support to ISIS in 2018 by a jury in Akron, Ohio. Authorities stated that Hendricks had communicated with other radicalized persons in the United States attempting to recruit them into a "sleeper cell" that would carry out attacks against the public, as well as military members whose information was previously released by ISIS, and a

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woman who organized the "First Annual Muhammad Art Exhibit and Contest" in Garland, Texas in 2015.
SOURCE: 5 February 2019, [Newsweek](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Burkina Faso - 14 Civilians Killed in Terrorist Attack**

(U) Kain - Fourteen civilians were killed in a terrorist attack in northern Burkina Faso near the Mali border, the military said on Monday. The Burkina Faso army conducted raids in three northern provinces in response and said it "neutralized" 146 militants, according to a report that media could not immediately confirm. The attack, which took place in the town of Kain in the Yatenta province bordering Mali, came before a summit of the five Sahel countries—Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger—to be held in the capital.

SOURCE: 5 February 2019, [Eye Witness News](#)

(U) Russia - Moscow Faces 300 Bomb Threats, 50,000 People Evacuated

(U) Moscow - Interfax news agency said Moscow's emergency services received nearly 300 bomb threats yesterday, resulting in the evacuation of about 50,000 people. State-run news agency RIA Novosti said 130 venues—to include shopping malls, schools, and official buildings—were targeted with bomb hoaxes. A similar series of fake bomb calls plagued Russia in 2017, inflicting major economic damage. Some Russian media claimed then that the calls might have been launched from neighboring Ukraine, which has been locked in a tug-of-war with Russia after its annexation of Crimea.

SOURCE: 5 February 2019, [Seattle Times](#)

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